

Ozone Nonattainment Area Designation Process

Utah Air Quality Board
February 4, 2009



Introduction

- On March 12, 2008 EPA promulgated revisions to the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for Ozone
 - Lowered the 4th highest 8-hr primary (Health effects) standard from 0.08 ppm to 0.075 ppm
 - Eliminated the rounding convention that previously allowed areas to be in attainment up to 0.084 ppm
 - Designated a secondary (Welfare effects) standard to be identical to the primary standard

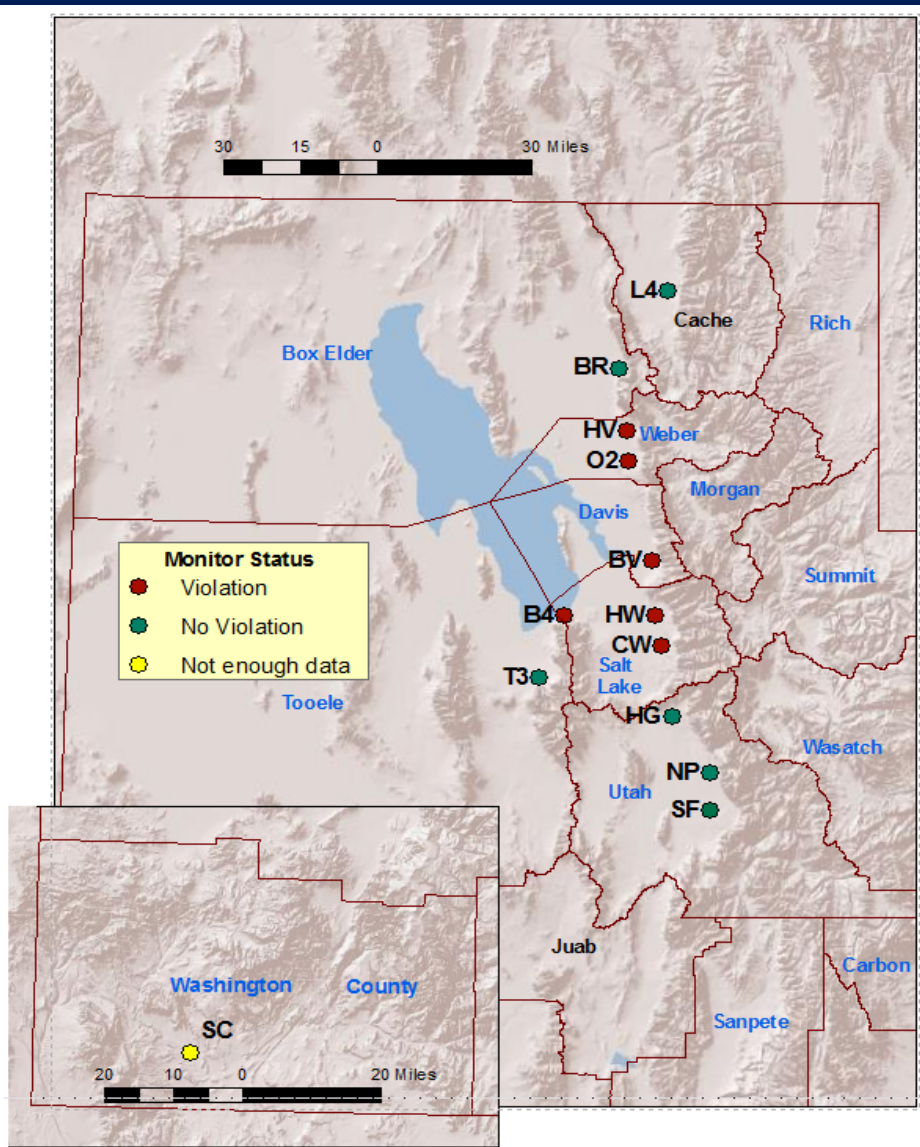


Introduction (Cont.)

- The Clean Air Act requires that all states submit recommended initial area designations to EPA within one year of a revision of the standard (March 12, 2008)
- Areas may be designated as:
 - **Attainment** – for any area that meets the standard for the pollutant
 - **Nonattainment** – for any area that does not meet the standard or that contributes to a violation in a nearby area
 - **Unclassifiable** – for any area that cannot be classified based on available information

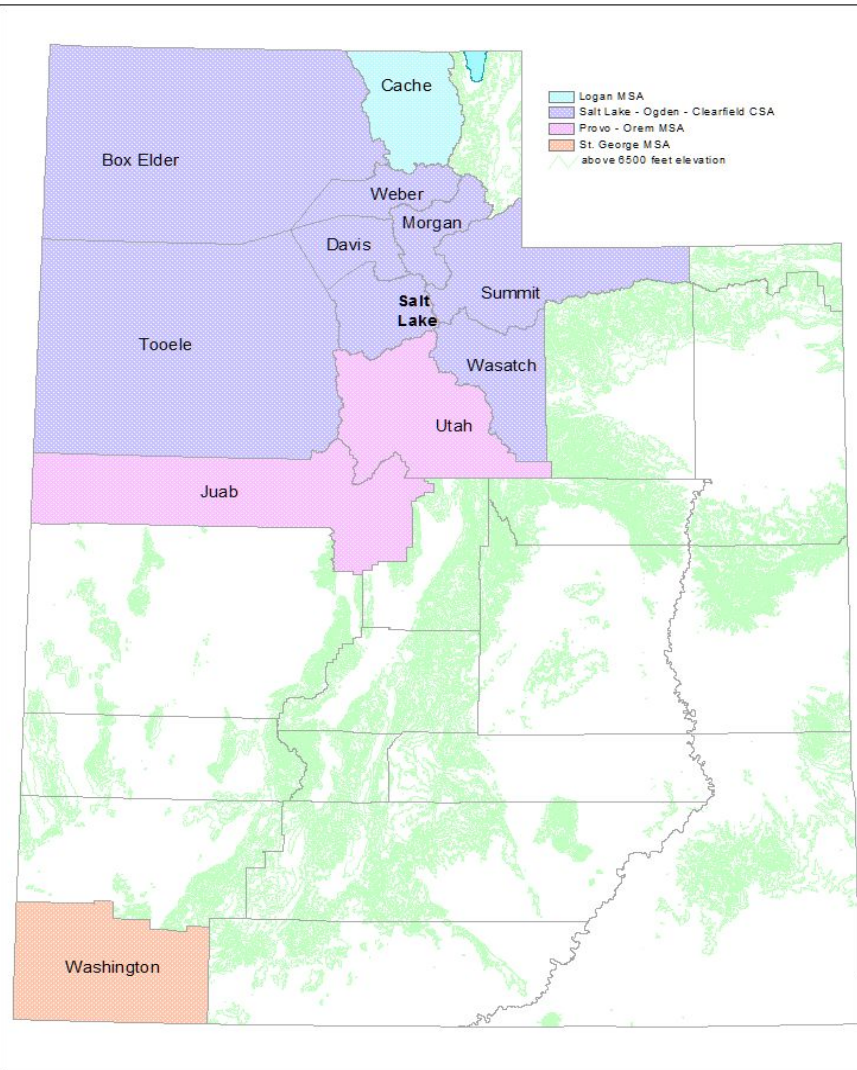


Utah's Air Monitoring Network



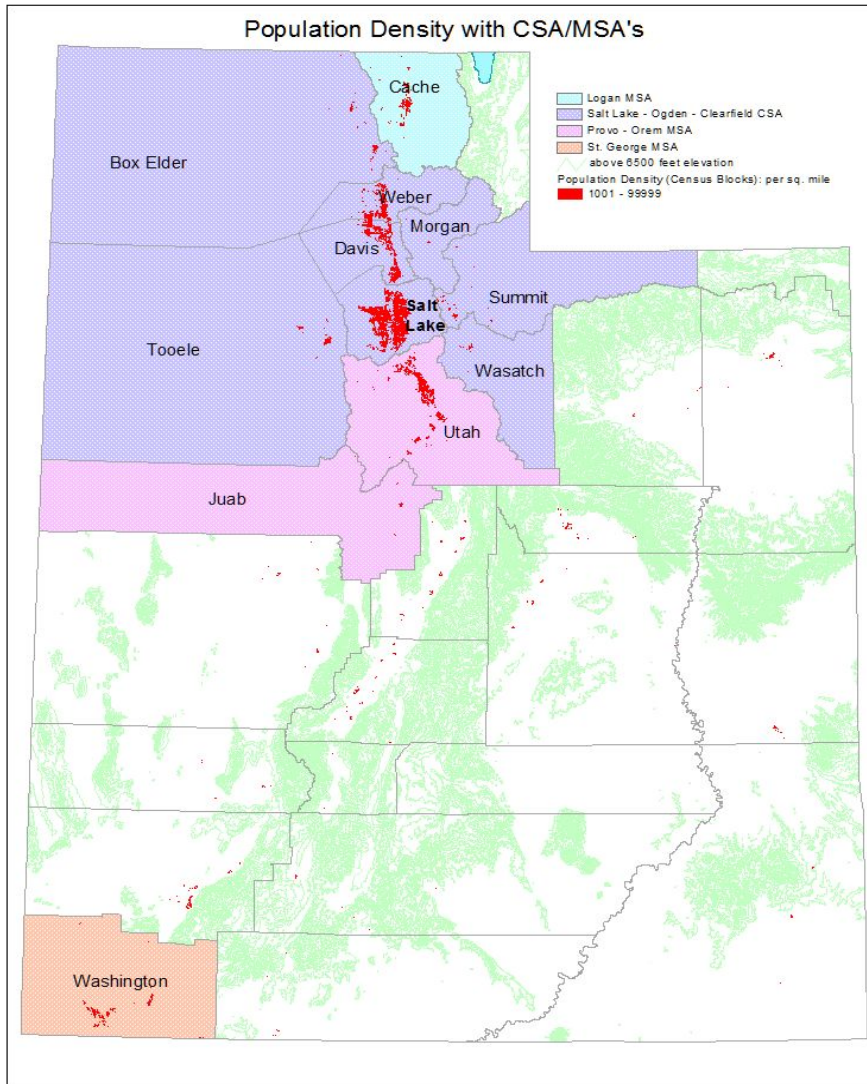
- This is a map of Utah's current ozone air monitoring network
- The colored dots indicate compliance or noncompliance with the NAAQS based on 2006-2008 data
 - **RED** - not attaining
 - **Green** - means attaining
 - **Yellow** - not enough data

EPA Guidance



- For urban nonattainment areas that violate the 8-hr standard, EPA presumes that the area nonattainment boundaries should be Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) or Combined Statistical Areas (CSA)
- For rural nonattainment areas, EPA presumes that the entire county in which a violation occurs should be designated as nonattainment

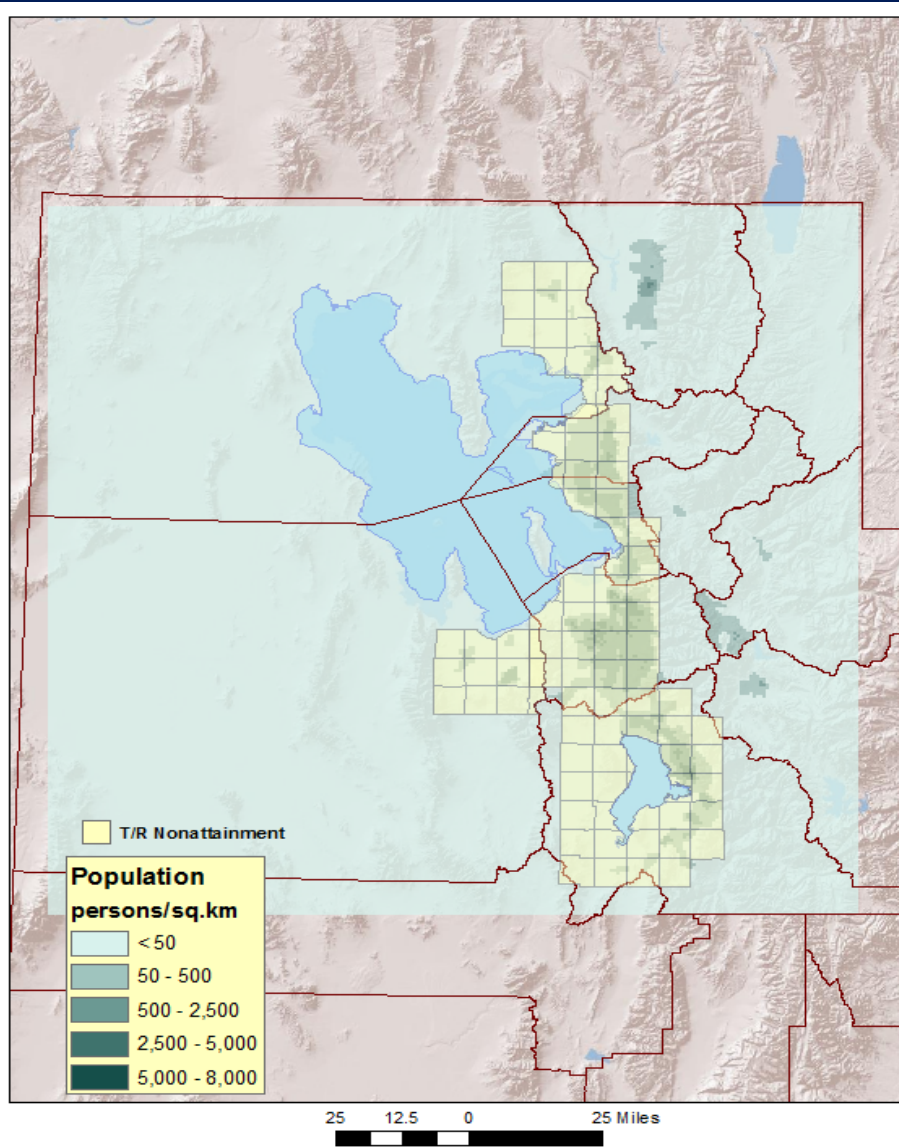
EPA Guidance (cont.)



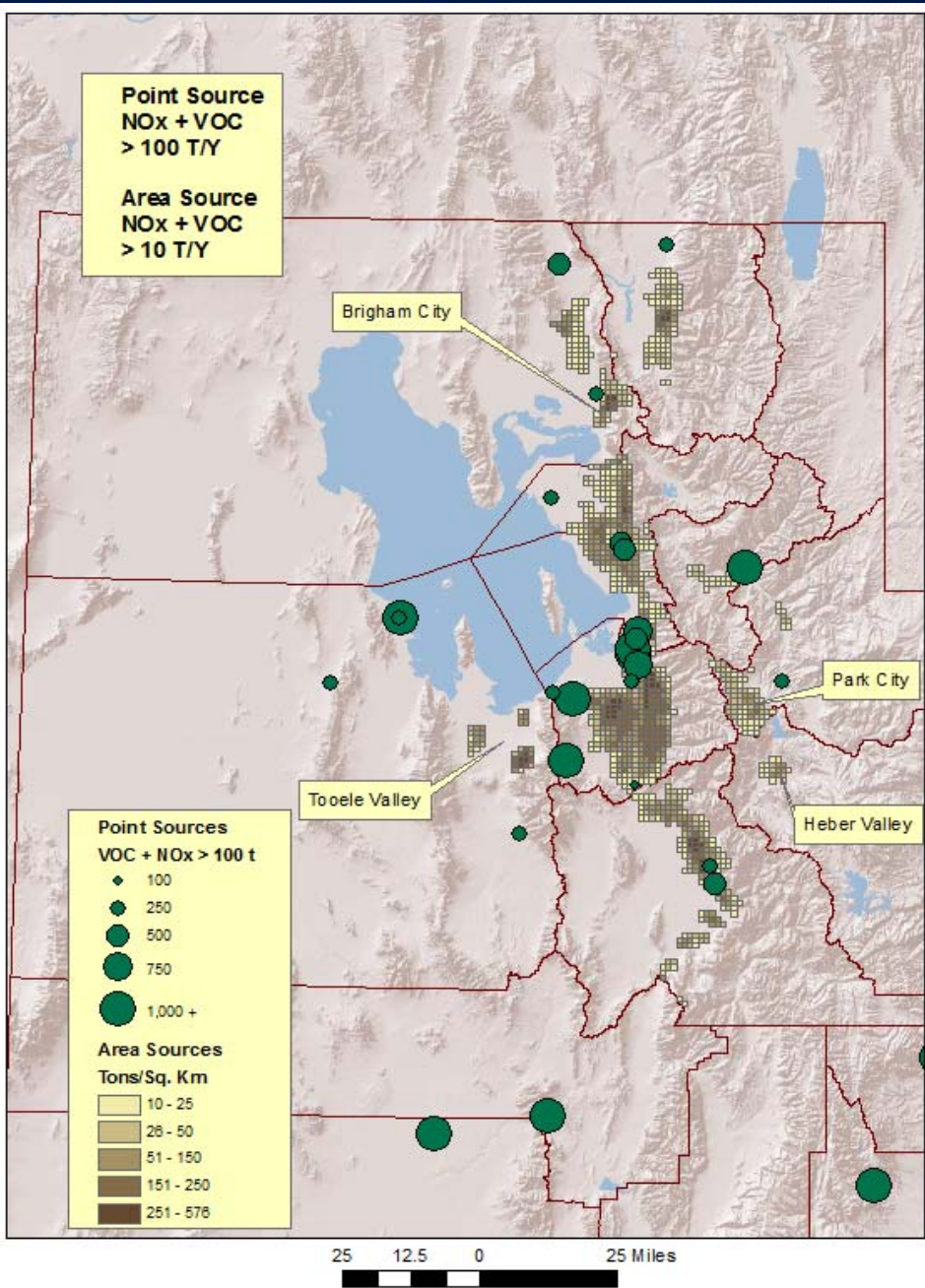
- EPA will, however, consider requests for nonattainment area designations that differ from their presumed MSA/CSA definitions on a case-by-case basis considering the following nine factors:

- Precursor Emission Data
- Air Quality Monitoring Data
- Population Density
- Traffic & Commuting Patterns
- Growth Rates & Patterns
- Meteorology
- Geography/Topography
- Jurisdictional Boundaries
- Level of Control of Emission Sources

EPA Guidance (cont.)



- Utah is evaluating each of these nine factors to determine how to best designate our nonattainment areas
- Rather than presume MSA or CSA boundaries, Utah is considering using:
 - county boundaries or
 - townships boundaries
- We feel this will provide a higher degree of resolution.



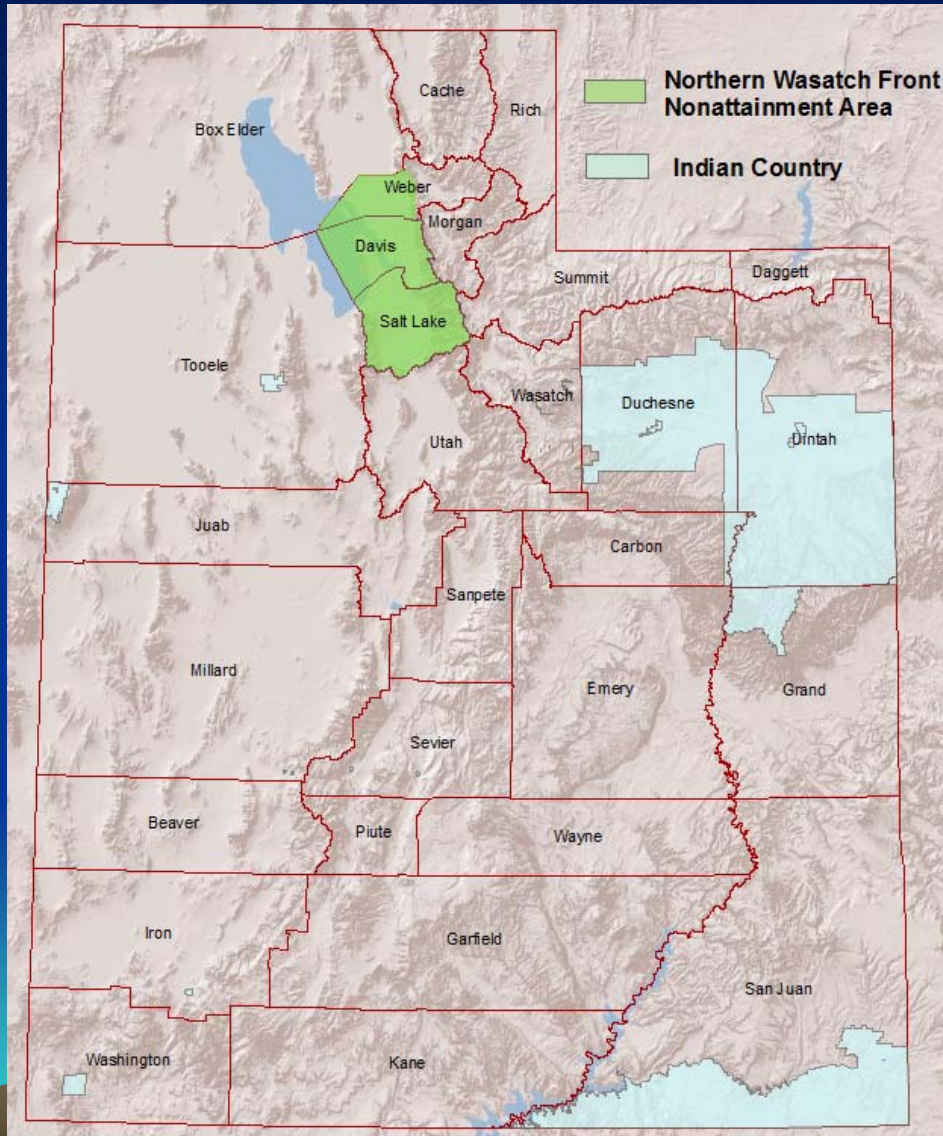
- This figure shows how some of the nine factors are being considered.
 - Population Density
 - Ozone Precursor emissions
 - Geography/Topography
 - Air Quality Monitoring Data
- Three Wasatch Front counties (Weber, Davis and Salt Lake) all had monitoring violations of the standard
- Other areas of interest outside the Wasatch Front are also being evaluated to see if they violate the standard or contribute to violations in any of the Wasatch Front counties

Utah's Recommendation



- Utah is considering recommending to the EPA that the following area be designated nonattainment
 - Northern Wasatch Front nonattainment area

Utah's Recommendation (Cont.)



- All other areas of Utah will probably be recommended as
 - Attainment
 - or
 - Unclassifiable
- Utah does not make recommendations regarding Indian Country

Schedule for Designation Process

- EPA promulgated new ozone standard (March 12, 2008)
- The Governor will make a **“recommendation”** to EPA by March 12, 2009. One year after the new standard is promulgated
- EPA will issue a response to the Governor’s Designation **“Recommendation”** by November 2009
- DAQ will submit comments or additional information to EPA by January 2010
- EPA will issue a **“Final Designation”** decision within 24 months after the new standard was promulgated (March 12, 2010)
- Transportation Conformity will apply 12 months following the effective date of the **“Final Designation”** (March 2011)
- The State Implementation Plan (SIP) is due three years from the effective date of EPA’s **“Final Designation”** (March 2013)



?? Questions ??

